

with the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department, a part-time policeman with the Wesson Police Department and finally going full time with the Brookhaven Police Department. He was a servant of the law, and a servant of men, and he was carrying out that service when he died in the line of duty shortly before 5 a.m. Saturday.

"He's died a hero, trying to protect and take care of our town, and people need to know that," Stogner said. "He put everybody first—everybody came before him. He never done for himself. We've lost somebody real special."

Moak was a 2006 graduate of Enterprise Attendance Center, a capable football player who helped the Yellow Jackets make the playoffs. Former principal Shannon Eubanks said his entire class was full of service-minded youth.

"One of those graduates is in the U.S. Marines, several became teachers, others were in nursing—Zach was in a close-knit group in a service class," he said. "He was a very likable guy, just a good guy—a quiet kid, didn't cause any problems. He's going to be greatly missed by the community."

Lincoln County Sheriff Steve Rushing said Moak got his start in law enforcement by going through the law enforcement academy and serving in the reserve deputy program.

"He was a super-nice guy who loved working in law enforcement. Dedicated to his job," Rushing said. "You could always depend on him to work the details. He loved his job."

Moak moved on to Wesson, where his boss was chief Chad O'Quinn.

"We enjoyed him being a part of our family in Wesson," O'Quinn said. "I was happy for him when he was able to pursue a full-time career in law enforcement. He will be dearly missed by us all."

Pike County Sheriff's Deputy Jason Blake went through training with Moak, whom he regarded as a brother.

"Best man I ever knew," Blake said. "He treated everybody with respect, no matter who you were or what your background was. That didn't change him. When we got into law enforcement together, we both decided we'd give people the chance to change. Whoever steps up on the BPD midnight shift has some massive shoes to fill."

Moak's father is Marshall Moak, and his mother is Vicki Nations Moak, who runs the Enterprise Drive Inn. His brother, Christopher Moak, lives in Natchez.

Vicki Moak said her son got started in law enforcement as an auxiliary officer working security at football games. He signed up for police academy and was accepted—before he told his mother.

"I think he thought I'd try to talk him out of it," she said. "I just said, 'Is this where your heart is? You'll have a lot coming at you, and I just want you to be prepared.' He said, 'I know, mamma,' and he loved every minute of it. When he was able to help someone, he felt good about it."

Vicki Moak, her face dried from a Saturday long with tears, recalled her son's baptism.

"I know where he's at right now, and that gives me peace," she said.

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, I also ask unanimous consent that excerpts from an October 1, 2018, article from *Corinth Today*, titled, "Residents React to Hatchie Bottom Tragedy," pertaining to Patrolman Josh Smith be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the *Corinth Today*, Oct. 1, 2018]

# RESIDENTS REACT TO HATCHIE BOTTOM TRAGEDY

(By Josh Mitchell)

The circumstances that led to an off-duty Mississippi Highway Patrol trooper being shot and killed remain unclear.

Josh Smith, 32, was pronounced deceased in Hatchie Bottom near the Alcorn/Tippah County line at around 12:45 a.m. Sunday.

Retired Mississippi Highway Patrolman Freddie Corbin said "all troopers are like family" and that Smith was a "good person" who would always help people.

Corbin added that Smith was a husband and father and loved being part of the highway patrol.

Smith had recently had foot surgery and was assigned to light duty helping out at the driver's license office in Corinth, Corbin noted.

Smith worked the Tippah County area while Corbin was assigned to Prentiss County, but both were part of the same Troop F, based in New Albany. Corbin said some people joked that they were the "F Troop."

Corbin also said Smith was part of the MHP SWAT team and was a member of the motorcycle unit.

Corbin works security in the same place where Smith was helping with the driver's license office. Smith had a quiet demeanor, and Corbin said he saw him last Wednesday.

For the past two days all he has thought about is Smith getting killed.

"He was an outstanding guy," Corbin added.

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, hearts are broken in Mississippi as families and friends mourn. Please keep these families and communities in your prayers as they face the difficult times ahead. I hope they will find comfort in knowing these fallen law enforcement officers will be remembered with deep appreciation and gratitude.

## HONORING LIEUTENANT COMMANDER JAMES J. CONNELL

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, along with Senator CHRIS COONS and Congresswoman LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER of Delaware, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the life of LCDR James J. Connell, of Wilmington, DE. J.J. passed away on January 14, 1971, at the age of 32, at the hands of Vietnamese guards during the Vietnam war after being held as a POW. In life and death, J.J. epitomized the best of the country's selfless citizens who put their lives on the line during the Vietnam war. His service exemplifies the unwavering courage, devotion to duty, and honor that he had and reminds us all of how good we can be.

J.J. Connell was born on May 6, 1939, in Wilmington, DE, attending Salesianum High School until 1957. Following this, he graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy on June 7, 1961, after having spent some time in Congress as a page. By 1962, he was designated as a naval aviator. After additional training, he was assigned as a flight instructor at NAAS Whiting Field, FL. He then served with Attack Squadron 55 aboard the USS *Ticonderoga*, then at NAS Lemoore, CA,

until deploying on the USS *Ranger* on December 1964. After 7 months of combat, he was shot down over North Vietnam on July 15, 1966. Though he only sustained minor injuries, rescue efforts were impossible in the high-threat area he landed in, and consequently, he was captured.

J.J. was captured by the North Vietnamese at a time when U.S. prisoners were declared as criminals and subjected to brutal conditions such as isolation, beatings, starvation, and other means of torture. Despite the heinous means of brutal force the Vietnamese used, J.J. refused to fold under pressure, demonstrating courage and determination beyond his years. He was in captivity for 1,645 days before his death, with his remains returning to the United States on March 6, 1974. He left behind two children who would never know their father and a wife who had previously waited years hoping that J.J. would return home alive.

Though it seems that time may have forgotten J.J. Connell, it is imperative that we remember the hard work and dedication he put into protecting our country and keeping it safe. Posthumously, he was awarded with the Navy Cross, the second highest award for valor after the Medal of Honor and the highest award of valor presented to any Delawarean during the Vietnam war. J.J. was a true hero, and is an inspiration to us all even today.

Along with Senator CHRIS COONS and Congresswoman LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER, I wish to commemorate J.J., to celebrate his life, and to offer his family our deepest sympathy on their tragic loss.

## TRIBUTE TO FRANCES H. ARNOLD, GEORGE P. SMITH, AND GREGORY P. WINTER

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, today the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced the awarding of the Nobel Prize in chemistry to three outstanding scientists, Frances H. Arnold, George P. Smith, and Gregory P. Winter, for using evolutionary principles to create new enzymes. Their work marks a remarkable leap forward in human knowledge and technology, and I salute these scientists on their honor.

The use of evolutionary techniques to create enzymes has led to new developments in numerous fields, from health to biofuel technology. Through the use of directed evolution, scientists and researchers have been able to speed up the processes of nature and to tackle some of our most challenging problems. These achievements would not have been possible without the leadership of Dr. Arnold, Dr. Smith, and Sir Gregory Winter.

Dr. Arnold hails from my home State of California and has worked as a professor at the California Institute of Technology. I am proud of the role that Caltech played in making this discovery possible. Dr. Arnold received

her Ph.D. from the University California, Berkeley, and I thank her for her contributions to the study of bioengineering and biochemistry.

On behalf of all Californians, I commend these three recipients on a well-deserved honor and for all that they have done to advance human knowledge of the power of evolutionary technology and bioengineering. Let us hope that this discovery will continue to expand the horizon of human knowledge and lead to new efforts in humanity's never-ending quest for enlightenment.

Again, I congratulate these three distinguished scientists and their families on this remarkable discovery and prestigious award.

#### 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF RUSSELLVILLE

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the members and leadership of First Baptist Church of Russellville in celebration of the 200th anniversary of their first meeting in Logan County, KY. At a time when the United States was comprised of only 20 States, a small group of people, including 10 members and three elders, formed a church which held its first meeting on November 24, 1818.

For 200 years, the church has worked to meet the needs of its community and to reach far beyond the boundaries of Logan County to minister to the needs of others. The dedicated congregation at First Baptist Church of Russellville has planted three other churches and commissioned several members into full-time overseas missions, including Rev. and Mrs. Sheldon Trimble to Nigeria in 1865; Mary Nell Lynne to China in 1918; Robert and Mavis Hardy to Japan in 1958; Cathy Sue Smith to the Philippines in 1982; and Robert and Julie Johnson to Taiwan in 1992.

Furthermore, First Baptist Church of Russellville has given over \$3,000,000 to the Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention, which supports missionaries and trains pastors worldwide. Today, the men, women, and students of First Baptist Church of Russellville continue to play a vital role in the life of their community.

I congratulate Pastor Joe Ball and all the members of First Baptist on this truly exceptional milestone. I thank them for all they have done and continue to do through their many generations of service.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

#### 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF BIDDEFORD REGIONAL CENTER OF TECHNOLOGY

• Mr. KING. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Biddeford Regional Center of Technology, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary. BRCOT offers unique hands-on programs and

follows rigid national standards to help prepare its students for academic success and future careers. BRCOT offers a variety of programs to local high school students and integrates academic study with firsthand career and technical education. Students work closely with instructors who stress "learning by doing."

BRCOT began in 1967 when the Biddeford School Board and the Biddeford City Council voted to build an addition on to the high school specifically dedicated to technical training. This addition opened for the 1968 school year, and though, over the past 50 years focus on career and technical training ebbed and flowed, today there is a resurgence of interest and support for students to develop the skills and practical knowledge gained through career and technical education. BRCOT is one of 27 career and technical schools in Maine and serves students from Biddeford, Dayton, Saco, Old Orchard Beach, and surrounding communities. Students can focus on 16 different career pathways, including auto technology, legal studies, early childhood education, machine tool technology, and welding and metal fabrication.

BRCOT ensures that students are fully prepared to work in their chosen field by collaborating with the local business community to develop updated and current programs based on industry standards. All coursework is approved by the State of Maine and includes a heavy emphasis on safety and "habits of work," with BRCOT providing job shadow and internship opportunities that give students real world experience. BRCOT also boasts an active student leadership council, representing students from each program. The leadership council is involved in community projects, fundraising, advising fellow students on BRCOT policies, and special events, such as the annual awards banquet.

The 2018 school year has a full complement of 345 students in 16 programs. BRCOT boasts a 90 percent graduating rate, with 40 percent of those students earning technical credentials, making them ready to transition to full-time careers. Nearly two-thirds of graduates choose to attend postsecondary schools, including Maine Maritime Academy, Maine College of Art, the University of Maine, as well as choosing to serve in the U.S. Army and the Marine Corps.

I am proud to recognize the work of the Biddeford Regional Center of Technology. For 50 years, they have served thousands of students in the Biddeford area, increasing their skills and preparing them to continue their education or enter the workforce. I want to thank all of those involved in the work of BRCOT, from the students to the teachers and faculty, and I look forward to seeing their continued success for many more years to come.●

#### REMEMBERING WISTER "PUG" EDWIN WILLIAMS

• Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I would like to honor the memory of Wister "Pug" Edwin Williams—a patriot, an Alaskan pioneer, a loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and a role model to so many. Pug passed away on September 25, 2018, at the age of 92 in Anchorage, AK.

A member of the Greatest Generation, Pug was born on October 28, 1925, in Baltimore, MD, and grew up in Daytona Beach, FL. He enlisted in the Army Air Force when he was 17 years old and served in the World War II Pacific Theatre in New Guinea and the Philippines. He was awarded a Purple Heart.

After recovering from his injuries, in 1946—13 years before Alaska became a State—he headed to Alaska and got to work building a State that he loved. He worked for the Alaska Railroad until he could get on with the Federal Road Commission, building the then non-existent highways Alaskans drive on today.

After the road commission, he field-apprenticed into becoming an engineer with the Corps of Engineers, again instrumental in building Alaska's infrastructure where none had existed. He worked at the Corps of Engineers for 25 years, including during the disaster recovery of the 1964 earthquake. At the time of his retirement, he was chief executive assistant at the Corps of Engineers, the highest civilian position at the Corps.

Pug met his wife Yvonne O'Brien early on in his life in Alaska. They enjoyed 42 years of marriage until her death. Together, they had 8 children, 22 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren. They were the love of each other's lives, and that love is reflected in the values passed on to multiple generations of Alaskans.

Pug was in awe of Alaska and worked all across the State, including in rural Alaska. His door was always open to rural Alaskans who did not have a place to stay when they came to Anchorage.

He loved to hunt and fish, a passion he passed down to his children and grandchildren. Pug also loved listening to the opera, playing piano, and listening to people's stories. He was funny, kind, and generous, particularly to those in need. His faith in God never wavered.

Pug lived a good, long life. He helped build and shape the character of our great State, and he served our country valiantly. For this, we celebrate his life, honor his memory, and will keep his family in our thoughts and prayers.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

##### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 3:38 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker pro tempore